

July 31, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The FCC recently received an application from SBC for approval to offer long distance services in Indiana under section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I am writing to urge the FCC to approve SBC's application.

Technology is going to play a critical role in the future economic growth of Indianapolis, and my administration has made it a priority to promote policies that encourage local companies to develop new products and services, enter new markets, and use technology to become more productive and efficient.

I believe an important step in providing these opportunities to our businesses is allowing full and fair competition in the telecommunications business. Giving Hoosier consumers and business customers more choice will spur innovation, improve customer service, and lower prices.

Active and aggressive competition is good for the consumer and helps spur innovation and new product development. Allowing SBC to provide long distance service will expand competition in the long distance market, and I believe that expansion will be good for Indianapolis and all of Central Indiana.

I ask you to approve SBC's application to enter the long distance business in Indiana and help Indianapolis continue to advance as a great place to grow a technology business. Thank you very much for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Bart Peterson  
Mayor, City of Indianapolis